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SUBJECT: OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL: RESPONSE TO SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE BIAUDET

¶1. (U) Post is authorized to make the following statement
at the July 9, 2009, Permanent Council meeting in Vienna:

Begin Text:

Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

It is a pleasure to welcome Special Representative Biaudet to
the Permanent Council today. We appreciate her presentation
on her priorities for 2010, and look forward to the Office's
continued work to combat trafficking in human beings across
the OSCE region.

Efforts to prevent human trafficking and to accurately
identify and appropriately assist victims of trafficking
remain high priorities for the United States, as do national
and international efforts to effectively prosecute
traffickers. We believe the Office of the Special
Representative plays an important role in the fight against
human trafficking. We particularly commend its work to help
participating States establish national rapporteurs or
equivalent mechanisms, and to strengthen national monitoring
and reporting efforts across the region.

Additionally, we welcome the planned survey to assess the
progress made in the OSCE region towards preventing
trafficking in human beings. This survey, combined with the
Office's country assessments, will assist countries in
identifying specific areas where the implementation of OSCE
anti-trafficking commitments can be strengthened.

We very much welcome the concrete actions of the Office of
the Special Representative, and hope the Office will continue
efforts to find greater efficiencies in its work. We look
forward to the further development of an integrated approach
to preventing and combating trafficking in human beings as
well as assisting victims across the OSCE region.

Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.
CLINTON